

245 the second harvest; each household put down as much as it
 251 wanted. In good years the breadfruit harvest was more than
 enough for everyone, and in a run of good years the pits would
 be kept full. Considerable labor was necessary at the time of
 [461] the harvest, but in the intervals there was little agricultural
 labor, and the men fished and amused themselves as best they
 could.

421 The concept of property was very strongly developed and all
 objects were individually owned. At the same time there was
 recognition of the paramount rights of the group, whether fam-
 ily or tribe. When the interest of the group was thus involved,
 one might not hold out property without committing offense.

[423] Land was administered by the chief for the benefit of the tribe,
 but trees and crops were individually owned. Until the crops
 were gathered in, each man retained his individual ownership,
 but as soon as the goods had been brought into the house, they
 belonged to the family and were prorated by the household
 head as needed. Although everyone was well aware of the own-
 ership of every object, wealth was concentrated in the hands
 of family heads and eldest children, who became, theoretically,
 heads of the household from the moment they were born.

423 Agricultural property was vested not in land but in trees or
 gardens, which might be scattered all over the valley, a circum-
 stance which caused considerable confusion when the French
 tried to take over certain land. The natives were ready to give
 224 up the land but claimed the trees. Birds and a few wild pigs
 furnished the only game on the islands. The wild boars were
 ferocious beasts, and were hunted in a manner which was a test
 of sportsman's courage. The boar was driven down a mountain
 path on which the hunters would wait, knife in hand, to attack
 the animal as it charged.

231 Domesticated pigs, although not an important economic asset
 here, deserve special mention. Since a pig had to be fed on the
 same sort of food as human beings and in the same amount,
 keeping a pig was equivalent to adding another member to
 the family. A pig, therefore, was not simply a pig, but a pig